AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1   1-37   (Canceled)

1   38.   (Currently amended) A computer implemented client method for
2   dynamically managing a user software license, the method comprising:
3   receiving an action from the user to access a feature from one or more
4   features of a software program;
5   responsive to receiving the action from the user, sending a request to a
6   server to access the feature of the software program, the request
7   including ~~identification information concerning the user, and~~
8   license verification information concerning the user;
9   receiving current software license information concerning the user from
10   the server; and
11   storing received current software license information concerning the user.

1   39.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the received
2   current software license information concerning the user indicates that the user is not
3   licensed to run the software program, the method further comprising performing at least
4   one step from a group of steps comprising:
5   displaying a message to the user indicating that the user is not licensed to
6   run the software program;

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7		providing the user with an opportunity to purchase a license to run the
8		software program;
9		allowing the user to run the software program without a license for a
10		limited time only;
11		allowing the user to run the software program without a license a limited
12		number of times only; and
13		terminating the software program, such that the user cannot run the
14		software program.

1   40.   (Previously presented) The client method of claim 38 wherein:

2   the received current software license information concerning the user

3   comprises modified license information concerning the user.

1   41.   (Previously presented) The client method of claim 40 wherein the

2 modified license information concerning the user comprises a user software license from

3 a group of user software licenses comprising:

4   an activated user software license;

5   a deactivated user software license;

6   an extended user software license;

7   a restricted user software license;

8   an upgraded user software license; and

9   a downgraded user software license.

1   42.   (Previously presented) The client method of claim 38 wherein receiving

2 current software license information concerning the user includes a hardware

3 configuration identifier of a computer associated with the user, the method further

4 comprising:

5   creating a current hardware configuration identifier of the computer

6   associated with the user; and

7   comparing the received hardware configuration identifier to the current

8   hardware configuration identifier.

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1   43.   (Currently amended) The client method of claim 42 further comprising:

2   responsive to <u>a difference between</u> the received hardware

3   configuration identifier ~~being acceptably similar to~~ <u>and</u> the

4   current hardware configuration identifier<u> being below a</u>

5   <u>predetermined threshold</u>, allowing the user to run the

6   software program.

1   44.   (Currently amended) The client method of claim 42 further comprising:

2   responsive to <u>a difference between</u> the received hardware

3   configuration identifier ~~not being acceptably similar to~~<u>and</u>

4   the current hardware configuration identifier<u> not being</u>

5   <u>below a predetermined threshold</u>, terminating the software

6   program, such that the user cannot run the software

7   program.

1   45.   (Currently amended) The client method of claim 42 further comprising:

2   responsive to <u>a difference between</u> the received hardware configuration

3   identifier ~~not being acceptably similar to~~<u>and</u> the current hardware

4   configuration identifier<u> not being below a predetermined threshold</u>,

5   performing at least one step from a group of steps comprising:

6   displaying a message to the user indicating that the user is not

7   licensed to run the software program;

8   providing the user with an opportunity to purchase a license to run

9   the software program;

10   allowing the user to run the software program without a license for

11   a limited time only; and

12   allowing the user to run the software program without a license a limited

13   number of times only.

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1   46.   (Currently amended) A computer ~~program product~~readable medium

2   containing instructions that, when executed, cause the computer system to perform

3   desired actions for dynamically managing a user software license, ~~the computer program~~

4   ~~product comprising~~wherein the instructions comprise:

5   ~~a processor;~~

6   ~~a memory;~~

7   program code for receiving an action from the user to access a feature

8   from one or more features of a software program;

9   program code for, responsive to receiving the action from the user,

10   sending a request to a server to access the feature of the software

11   program, the request including ~~identification information~~

12   ~~concerning the user, and~~license verification information

13   concerning the user;

14   program code for receiving current software license information

15   concerning the user from the server; and

16   program code for storing received current software license information

17   concerning the user~~; and~~

18   ~~a computer readable medium on which the program codes are stored~~.

1   47.   (Currently amended) A computer system for dynamically managing a

2   user software license, the computer system comprising:

3   ~~means~~a mechanism for receiving an action from the user to access a

4   feature from one or more features of a software program;

5   ~~means~~a mechanism for, responsive to receiving the action from the

6   user, sending a request to a server to access the feature of the

7   software program, the request including ~~identification~~

8   ~~information concerning the user, and~~license verification

9   information concerning the user;

10   ~~means~~ a mechanism for receiving current software license information

11   concerning the user from the server; and

12   ~~means~~ a mechanism for storing received current software license information

13 concerning the user.